CLAIMS

1. A basic, non-aqueous decontaminating fluid, comprising

20 to 40 wt%	of an aliphatic C_{2-6} alcohol;
20 to 40 wt%	of an aliphatic C_{2-6} amino alcohol;
20 to 50 wt%	of a cyclic C_{2-5} acid amide and/or an aliphatic C_{2-6} diamine; and
0.5 to 2.6 mol/L	of an alkali metal alkoxide (alkali metal alcoholate, alkali metal alkanolate) and/or an alkali metal aminoalkanoxide (alkali metal aminoalcoholate, alkali metal aminoalkanolate).

2. The decontaminating fluid as defined in claim 1, wherein the alkali metal alkoxide is selected from C_{1-6} alkoxides.

3. The decontaminating fluid as defined in claim 1, wherein the alkali metal alkoxide(s) (alcoholate(s), alkanolate(s)) and the ions thereof are formed by introducing the corresponding pure alkali metal or an alkali metal hydroxide or a commercial alkali metal alkoxide to the solvent components.

4. The decontaminating fluid as defined in claim 1, wherein the aliphatic alcohol present is a propanol and/or butanol.

5. The decontaminating fluid as defined in claim 1, wherein the amino alcohol present is 2-amino-1-butanol, *N,N*-dimethylaminoethanol, and/or *N*-methyldiisopropanolamine.

6. The decontaminating fluid as defined in claim 1, wherein the cyclic acid amide present is *N*-methyl-2-pyrrolidone.

7. The decontaminating fluid as defined in claim 1, wherein the fluid also contains, as co-solvents,

up to 10 wt% of a diol and/or
up to 20 wt% of an aliphatic or aromatic liquid hydrocarbon.

8. A process for the decontamination of surfaces, particularly painted, polymer-coated or plastics surfaces, characterized by the application of a decontaminating fluid as defined in claim 1.

9. The process as defined in claim 8, wherein the decontaminating fluid is applied, particularly by spraying, at a rate of from 0.05 to 0.2 L/m^2 surface area.

10. The process as defined in claim 8, wherein the decontaminating fluid is allowed to act for from 5 to 15 min and then rinsed off.

11. The process as defined in claim 8, wherein the surfaces that have been treated with the decontaminating fluid are treated with cold, warm, or hot water or with superheated steam such that the decontaminating fluid and the reaction products are rinsed off.